

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REGULATORY ACTION

Amend Section 502
Title 14, California Code of Regulations
Re: Waterfowl, Migratory; American Coot; and
Common Moorhen (Common Gallinule)

- I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: May 20, 2002
- II. Date of Pre-adoption Statement of Reasons: July 24, 2002
- III. Date of Final Statement of Reasons: September 4, 2002
- IV. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:
 - (a) Notice Hearing: Date: June 20, 2002
Location: South Lake Tahoe, California
 - (b) Discussion Hearing Date: August 2, 2002
Location: San Luis Obispo, California
 - (c) Adoption Hearing: Date: August 30, 2002
Location: Oakland, California

V. Update:

Modify Season Length in the Northeastern California Zone.

The original proposal provided a range of dates for season length in the Northeastern Zone. The proposed modification to the season length is as follows: The duck season will be from the second Saturday in October extending for 86 days and canvasbacks from the fourth Saturday in October extending for 38 days. The Goose season will be from the second Saturday in October extending for 100 days. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the California Breeding Pair Survey results were not available. The results are now available which allows the Department to establish season dates.

- (b) Modify Season Length in the Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone.

The original proposal provided a range of dates for season length in the Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone. The proposed modification to the season length is as follows: The duck season will be from the first

Saturday in November extending for 86 days and canvasbacks from December 20, 2002 through January 26, 2003. The Goose season will be from the first Saturday in November extending for 86 days. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the California Breeding Pair Survey results were not available. The results are now available which allows the Department to establish season dates.

(c) Modify Season Length in the Southern California Zone

The original proposal provided a range of dates for season length in the Southern California Zone. The proposed modification to the season length is as follows: The duck season will be from the first Saturday in November extending for 86 days and canvasbacks from December 20, 2002 through January 26, 2003. The Goose season will be from the third Saturday in October extending for 100 days. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the California Breeding Pair Survey results were not available. The results are now available which allows the Department to establish season dates.

(d) Modify Season Length in the Colorado River Zone

The original proposal provided a range of dates for season length in the Colorado River Zone. The proposed modification to the season length is as follows: The duck season will be from the Friday after the second Sunday in October extending for 101 days and canvasbacks from December 20, 2002 through January 26, 2003. The Goose season will be from October 21 extending for 98 days. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the Arizona Game and Fish Department had not established their hunting recommendations. To conform to federal regulations, simplify regulations and eliminate confusion, season length on the California side of the Colorado River Zone is set to match Arizona's season.

(e) Modify Season Length in the Balance of State Zone

The original proposal provided a range of dates for season length in the Balance of State Zone. The proposed modification to the season length is as follows: The duck season will be from the first Saturday in November extending for 86 days and canvasbacks from December 20, 2002 through January 26, 2003. The Goose season will be from the first Saturday in November extending for 86 days. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the California Breeding Pair Survey results were not available. The results are now available which allows the Department to establish season dates.

(f) Modify Daily Bag Limits of ducks in all zones

The original proposal provided a daily bag limit range of 4 to 7 ducks with a bag limit makeup of: 3 to 7 mallards, either 1 or 2 female mallards, 0 to 1 pintail, 0 to 1 canvasback which may be taken during the 38 day season. The proposed modification for the daily bag limit for ducks in all zones is as follows: a daily bag limit of 7 ducks with a daily bag limit makeup of: 5 mallards, but not more than 2 females, 0 to 1 pintail, 0 to 1 canvasback which may be taken during the 38 day season. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the California Breeding Pair Survey results were not available. The results are now available which allows the Department to establish a duck daily bag limit. However, anticipated changes in the federal frameworks may still occur regarding pintail seasons and the pintail daily bag limit.

(g) Modify Northern pintail season length in all zones

The original proposal did not include the possibility of having a separate season also known as a “season within a season” for pintail. The proposed modification is a possible season length of 0, 38, 60, or 86 days. Anticipated changes in the federal frameworks may still occur regarding pintail seasons with the possibility of a separate season also known as a “season within a season”. This proposal is based on the current understanding of the Service’s recommendations. However, a final decision will not be made by the Service until early August.

(h) Modify the North Coast Special Management Area Season Length

The original proposal provided a 5 day season for all Canada geese but did not include the actual dates. The proposed modification for the season length is 5 days from November 23, 2002. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the California Breeding Pair Survey results were not available. The results are now available which allows the Department to establish season dates.

(i) Modify Youth Hunting Day season length in the Northeastern California Zone

The original proposal provided a season length of either the last weekend in September or the first weekend in October. The proposed modification is the last weekend in September. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the California Breeding Pair Survey results were not available. The results are now available which allows the Department to establish season dates and propose specific Youth Hunting Days.

(j) Modify falconry season length in the Southern California Zone

The original proposal provided a season opening currently with duck season and extending for 107 days. The proposed modification is opening concurrently with goose season and extending for 107 days. The modified proposal provides falconry hunters recreational opportunity consistent with the federal regulations' limitations to a 107 day season for the falconry method of take.

(k) Modify falconry season length in the Colorado River Zone

The original proposal provided a season concurrent with the duck season and from January 21 through 25, 2003. The proposed modification is concurrent with the duck season and from January 27 through February 1, 2003. The modified proposal provides falconry hunters recreational opportunity consistent with the federal regulations' limitations to a 107 day season. At the time of the Initial Statement of Reasons, the Arizona Game and Fish Department had not established their hunting recommendations. To conform to federal regulations, simplify regulations and eliminate confusion, season length on the California side of the Colorado River Zone is set to match Arizona's season.

The following was adopted by the Fish and Game Commission at their meeting on August 30, 2002 in Oakland: A daily bag of 5 ducks, not more than 1 female mallard was adopted for all zones except the Colorado River Zone which has to match Arizona Game and Fish Department's regulations mandated by the federal frameworks. Duck and goose season lengths and goose bag limits were adopted as proposed for all zones except the Balance of State Zone and the Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone.

Balance of State Zone Ducks: Oct. 27 - Nov. 10 & Nov. 30 - Jan. 26.

Pintail season: Oct. 26 - Nov. 10 & Dec. 14 & Jan. 26

Additional youth hunt days: Nov. 16th & 17th

Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone Ducks: Oct. 19 - Nov. 3 & Nov. 23 - Jan. 26

Pintail season: Oct. 19 - Oct. 25 & Dec. 5 - Jan. 26

Additional youth hunt days: Nov. 9th & 10th

VI. Summary of Primary Considerations Raised in Support of or Opposition to the Proposed Actions and Reasons for Rejecting those considerations:

Responses to public comments received through July 22, 2002 were included in the Pre-adoption Statement of Reasons (see attached). Also attached are public comments from July 23 through August 30, 2002.

VII. Location and Index of Rulemaking File:

A rulemaking file with attached file index is maintained at:
California Fish and Game Commission
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

VIII. Location of Department files:

Department of Fish and Game
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

IX. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

(a) Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

1. Removal of 44 day restriction of white-fronted and cackling Canada goose harvest in the Northeastern California Zone.

Allow a 79 day season for white-fronted and cackling Canada geese instead of 100 days.
2. Lengthen the Balance of State Zone goose season from 79 to 86 days.

Allow a 93 day season for geese instead of the proposed 86 days.

Allow a 100 day season for geese instead of the proposed 86 days.
3. Remove season-long prohibition of Canada goose hunting in Humboldt and Del Norte counties and allow a 5-day season.

Allow a 9 day season for Canada geese instead of the proposed 5 days.

Allow a 16 day season for Canada geese instead of the proposed 5 days.
4. Create a special management area for white geese in the Imperial Valley portion of the Southern California Zone and extend the white goose hunting season in that area.

Extend the goose season in the entire zone rather than create a Special Management Area.
5. Remove the Special Management Area in the East Sacramento Valley and allow the hunting of Canada geese during the entire Balance of State Zone goose hunting season in that area.

Allow Canada goose hunting in the Special Management Area after mid-December instead of during the entire Balance of State Zone goose season.

(b) No Change Alternative:

1. Removal of 44 day restriction of white-fronted and cackling Canada goose harvest in the Northeastern California Zone.

The No Change Alternative would continue an unnecessary restriction on the take of these two goose populations. The existing regulation is more complicated than the proposal by having a shorter season for some populations but not others.

2. Lengthen the Balance of State Zone goose season from 79 to 86 days.

The No Change Alternative would continue an unnecessary restriction on the take of geese in this Zone.

3. Remove season-long prohibition of Canada goose hunting in Humboldt and Del Norte counties and allow a 5-day season.

The No Change Alternative would not allow any harvest of the increasing Aleutian Canada goose population, thereby increasing the depredation effect on private landowners in the region. A longer goose season in this area would reduce the resident Western Canada goose population below desired levels.

4. Create a special management area for white geese in the Imperial Valley portion of the Southern California Zone and extend the white goose hunting season in that area.

The No Change Alternative would not allow extra harvest of white geese at a time when the effect on agriculture is beginning. Further extensions for either white geese or all geese could lead to undesirable harvest levels.

5. Remove the Sacramento Valley (East) Special Management Area and allow the take of Canada geese in that area throughout the Balance of State Zone goose season.

The No Change Alternative would not allow further harvest of Aleutian and Cackling Canada geese in this area. Continuing

population growth of Aleutians would lead to greater depredation effects on the northwest coast of California in the spring.

- (c) Consideration of Alternatives: In view of information currently possessed, no reasonable alternative considered would be more effective in carrying out the purposes for which the regulation is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to the affected private persons than the proposed regulation.

X. Impact of Regulatory Action:

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

- (a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The proposed regulation(s) are intended to provide additional recreational opportunity to the public. Our experience has shown that additional recreational opportunity has a neutral economic impact on businesses.

- (b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California: None.
- (c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business: None.
- (d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None.
- (e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.
- (f) Programs mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.
- (g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4: None.
- (h) Effect on Housing Costs: None.

Updated Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Current regulations in Section 502, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), provide definitions, hunting zone descriptions, season opening and closing dates, and daily bag and possession limits. In addition to the five proposals contained herein, the Service, through the analysis of waterfowl population survey and other data, may also initiate changes in federal regulations which will require changes in existing and proposed State regulations. Changes in federal regulations for season opening and closing dates, elimination or creation of special management areas, season length, and daily bag limits for migratory birds may occur. These six proposed changes to state regulations require changes in the federal regulations. These proposals must be approved by the Pacific Flyway Council at their meeting on July 26, 2002. The Service will consider these and other recommendations at their meeting on August 1, 2002.

1. Lengthen the white-fronted and cackling Canada goose hunting season in the Northeastern California Zone

The existing regulations in 502(d)(1)(A) and 502(d)(1)(B) restrict the days of hunting for white-fronted and cackling Canada geese in the Northeastern California Zone to the first 44 days of the 100 day goose season. The proposed change would eliminate this restriction.

2. Lengthen the goose hunting season in the Balance of State Zone from 79 to 86 days.

The existing regulations in 502(d)(5)(A) and 502(d)(5)(B) establish a 79 day goose season in the Balance of State Zone. The proposed change would increase the season length to 86 days.

3. Remove the prohibition on the take of Canada geese in Humboldt and Del Norte counties and allow a 5 day season.

The existing regulations in 502(d)(5)(D)1. prohibit the take of Canada geese in Humboldt and Del Norte counties during the entire Balance of State Zone goose hunting season. The proposed change would provide for a 5 day season with a daily bag limit of 1 Canada goose.

4. Create a new Special Management Area in the Southern California Zone to allow a longer white goose hunting season in that Area.

The existing regulations in 502(d)(5)(D) establish Special Management Areas where hunting regulations differ from the general regulations in the specific hunting zone. The proposed change would create a new Special Management Area in which the white goose hunting season would extend later than the existing goose hunting season dates in the Southern California Zone.

5. Remove the Sacramento Valley (East) Special Management Area and allow the take of Canada geese in that area throughout the Balance of State Zone goose season.

The existing regulations in 502(b)(5)(A)4. and 502(d)(5)(D)4. describe the Sacramento Valley (East) Special Management Area and prohibit the take of Canada geese in this Special Management Area during the Balance of State Zone goose hunting season. The proposed change would eliminate the Special Management Area and allow the take of Canada geese during the Balance of State Zone goose hunting season in this Special Management Area.

6. **Establish a possible separate season also known as a “ season within a season” for pintail with a possible season length of 0, 38, 60, or 86 days.**

Current federal frameworks and existing regulations in 502 allow the take of pintail during the regular duck season in all zones. The proposed change is based on current understanding of the Service’s recommendations. However, a final decision will not be made by the Service until early August.

7. **In early August the Service adopted a 60 day pintail season and a closed canvasback season.**
8. **At the adoption meeting the Commission elected to adopt 2 additional youth hunt days in both the Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone and the Balance of State Zone during their split seasons.**
9. **Editorial changes are also proposed to improve the clarity and consistency of the regulations.**
10. **The Commission adopted the following regulations at the August 30, 2002 meeting in Oakland:**

Northeastern California Zone		
Species	Season	Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers)	From the second Saturday in October extending for 86 days. (Oct. 12 - Jan. 5) Pintails from the second Saturday in October extending for 60 days. (Oct. 12 - Dec. 10) Canvasback Season Closed.	Daily bag limit: 5 Daily bag limit makeup: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• up to 5 mallards, but not more than 1 female.• only 1 pintail of either sex may be taken during the 60 day season.• only 2 redheads of either sex.• only 4 scaup. Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.

Geese	From the second Saturday in October extending for 100 days. (Oct. 12 - Jan. 19)	<p>Daily bag limit: 3</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three may be white geese. • only two may be dark geese of which only one may be a small Canada goose (see definitions: 502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone		
Species	Season	Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers)	<p>A split season from the third Saturday in October extending for a period of 16 days (Oct. 19 - Nov. 3) and from the fourth Saturday in November extending for a period of 65 days (Nov. 23 - Jan. 26).</p> <p>Pintails: a split season from the third Saturday in October extending for a period of 7 days (Oct. 19 - Oct. 25) and from the first Thursday in December extending for a period of 53 days (Dec. 5 - Jan. 26).</p> <p>Canvasback Season Closed.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 5</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to 5 mallards, but not more than 1 female. • only 1 pintail of either sex may be taken during the 60 day split season. • only 2 redheads of either sex. • only 4 scaup. <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Geese	From the first Saturday in November extending for 86 days. (Nov. 2 - Jan. 26)	<p>Daily bag limit: 3</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three may be white geese. • only two dark geese of which only one may be a small Canada goose (see definitions: 502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Southern California Zone		
Species	Season	Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers).	<p>From the first Saturday in November extending for 86 days. (Nov. 2 - Jan. 26)</p> <p>Pintails from the fourth Thursday in November extending for 60 days. (Nov. 28 - Jan. 26)</p> <p>Canvasback Season Closed.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 5</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to 5 mallards, but not more than 1 female. • only 1 pintail of either sex may be taken during the 60 day season. • only 2 redheads of either sex. • only 4 scaup. <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Geese	From the third Saturday in October extending for 100 days. (Oct. 19 - Jan. 26)	<p>Daily bag limit: 5</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three may be white geese. • three may be dark geese, but only one may be a small Canada goose (see definitions: (502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>

Colorado River Zone		
Species	Season	Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers)	<p>From the Friday after the second Sunday in October extending 101 days. (Oct. 18 - Jan. 26)</p> <p>Pintails from the fourth Thursday in November extending for 60 days. (Nov. 28 - Jan. 26)</p> <p>Canvasback Season Closed.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 7</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 mallards, but not more than 2 females or Mexican-like ducks. • only 1 pintail of either sex may be taken during the 60 day season. • only 2 redheads of either sex. • only 4 scaup. <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Geese	From October 18 extending for 101 days. (Oct. 18 - Jan. 26)	<p>Daily bag limit: 6</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to three white geese. • up to three dark geese (see definitions: 502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Balance of State Zone		
Species	Season	Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers)	<p>A split season from the fourth Saturday in October extending for a period of 16 days (Oct. 26 - Nov. 10) and from the fifth Saturday in November extending for a period of 58 days (Nov. 30 - Jan. 26).</p> <p>Pintails: a split season from the fourth Saturday in October extending for a period of 16 days (Oct. 26 - Nov. 10) and from the second Saturday in December extending for a period of 44 days (Dec. 14 - Jan. 26).</p> <p>Canvasback Season Closed.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 5</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to 5 mallards, but not more than 1 female. • only 1 pintail of either sex may be taken during the 60 day split season. • only 2 redheads of either sex. • only 4 scaup. <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Geese	From the first Saturday in November extending for 86 days (Nov. 2 - Jan. 26).	<p>Daily bag limit: 3</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three may be white geese. • only two dark geese of which only one may be a small Canada goose (see definitions: 502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Youth Hunting Days Regulations (NOTE: Youth hunters must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult 18 years of age or older.)		
Species	Season	Daily Bag Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers), American Coot, Common Moorhen, Black Brant, Geese	<p>1. Northeastern California Zone: The last weekend in September.</p> <p>2. Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone: November 9th and 10th and the Saturday</p>	Same as regular season EXCEPT in the November Youth hunts in the Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone and the Balance of State Zone, the pintail season is closed.

Youth Hunting Days Regulations (NOTE: Youth hunters must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult 18 years of age or older.)

- following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days.
3. Southern California Zone: The Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days.
4. Colorado River Zone: The Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season.
5. Balance of State Zone: November 16th and 17th and the Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days.

Falconry Take of Ducks (including Mergansers), Geese, American Coots, and Common Moorhens.

Statewide Provisions

Species	Season	Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers), American Coot, Common Moorhen, Black Brant	<p>1. Northeastern California Zone. Open concurrently with duck season and extends for 105 days.</p> <p>2. Balance of State Zone. Open concurrently with duck season and extend for 107 days.</p> <p>3. Southern San Joaquin Zone. Open concurrently with duck season and extend for 107 days.</p> <p>4. Southern California Zone. Open concurrently with goose season and extend for 107 days.</p> <p>5. Colorado River Zone. Concurrent with the duck season and from January 27 - 31, 2003. Goose hunting in this zone by means of falconry is not permitted. Federal regulations require that California's hunting regulations conform to those of Arizona, where goose hunting by means of falconry is not permitted.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 3</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either all of one species or a mixture of species allowed for take. • Canvasback Season Closed. • Possession limit: 6

Addendum To Final Statement

The existing language in 502(b)(5)(A)(4) mirrors Federal regulation. The process for a State to change Federal regulation usually requires Pacific Flyway endorsement. We proposed to delete the Sacramento Valley (East) Special Management Area but were denied at the Flyway. So, we proposed to delete the Special Management Area but can not as Area is required by Federal regulation.

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X. Impact of Regulatory Action:

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

- (a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The proposed regulation(s) are intended to provide additional recreational opportunity to the public. Our experience has shown that additional recreational opportunity has a neutral economic impact on businesses.

- (b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California: None.
- (c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business: None.
- (d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None.
- (e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.
- (f) Programs mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.
- (g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4: None.
- (h) Effect on Housing Costs: None.

Section 502 is amended to read:

502. Waterfowl, Migratory; American Coot and Common Moorhen (Common Gallinule).

(a) Definitions.

(1) **Dark geese.** Dark geese include Canada geese, cackling geese, Aleutian geese and white-fronted geese ("specklebelly").

(2) **Large Canada geese.** Canada geese include western Canada geese ("honker") and lesser Canada geese ("lessers").

(3) **Small Canada geese.** Small (about the size of a mallard) Canada geese include cackling geese and Aleutian geese. Both are white-cheeked geese nearly identical in appearance to Large Canada geese. Aleutian geese have a thin white neck ring and Cackling geese have dark breasts. Both species ~~whistle~~ have a high-pitched cackle as opposed to the deeper "honking".

(4) **White geese.** White geese include Ross' geese and snow geese.

(b) Waterfowl Hunting Zones.

(1) **Northeastern California Zone:** In that portion of California lying east and north of a line beginning at the intersection of the Klamath River with the California-Oregon line; south and west along the Klamath River to the mouth of Shovel Creek; along Shovel Creek to its intersection with Forest Service Road 46N05 at Burnt Camp; west to its junction with Forest Service Road 46N10; south and east to its Junction with County Road 7K007; south and west to its junction with Forest Service Road 45N22; south and west to its junction with Highway 97 and Grass Lake Summit; south along to its junction with Interstate 5 at the town of Weed; south to its junction with Highway 89; east and south along Highway 89 to main street Greenville; north and east to its junction with North Valley Road; south to its junction of Diamond Mountain Road; north and east to its junction with North Arm Road; south and west to the junction of North Valley Road; south to the junction with Arlington Road (A22); west to the junction of Highway 89; south and west to the junction of Highway 70; east on Highway 70 to Highway 395; south and east on Highway 395 to the point of intersection with the California-Nevada state line ; north along the California-Nevada state line to the junction of the California-Nevada-Oregon state lines west along the California-Oregon line state to the point of origin.

(2) **Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone:** All of Kings and Tulare counties and that portion of Kern County north of the Southern California Zone.

(3) **Southern California Zone:** In that portion of southern California (but excluding the Colorado River Zone) lying south and east of a line beginning at the mouth of the Santa Maria River at the Pacific Ocean; east along the Santa Maria River to where it crosses Highway 166 near the City of Santa Maria; east on Highway 166 to the junction with Highway 99; south on Highway 99 to the crest of the Tehachapi Mountains at Tejon Pass; east and north along the crest of the Tehachapi Mountains to where it intersects Highway 178 at Walker Pass; east on Highway 178 to the junction of Highway 395 at the town of Inyokern; south on Highway 395 to the junction of Highway 58; east on Highway 58 to the junction of Interstate 15; east on Interstate 15 to the junction with Highway 127; north on Highway 127 to the point of intersection with the California-Nevada state line.

(4) **Colorado River Zone:** In those portions of San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial counties lying east of the following lines: Beginning at the intersection of Highway 95 with the California-Nevada state line; south along Highway 95 to Vidal Junction; south through the town of Rice to the San Bernardino-Riverside county line on a road known as "Aqueduct Road" in San Bernardino County; south from the San Bernardino-Riverside county line on road known in Riverside County as the "Desert Center to Rice Road" to the town of Desert Center; east 31 miles on Interstate 10 to its intersection with the Wiley Well Road; south on this road to Wiley Well; southeast along the Army-Milpitas Road to the Blythe, Brawley, Davis Lake intersections; south on the Blythe-Brawley paved road to its intersection with the Ogilby and Tumco Mine Road; south on this road to Highway 80; east seven miles on Highway 80 to its intersection with the Andrade-Algodones Road; south on this paved road to the intersection of the Mexican boundary line at Algodones, Mexico.

(5) **Balance of State Zone:** That portion of the state not included in Northeastern California, Southern California, Colorado River or the Southern San Joaquin Valley zones.

(A) Special Management Areas.

1. **North Coast.** All of Del Norte and Humboldt counties.

2. **Humboldt Bay (South).** Beginning at the intersection of the north boundary of Table Bluff County Park and the South Jetty Road; north along the South Jetty Road to the South Jetty; west along the South Jetty to the mean low water line of the Pacific Ocean; south along mean water line to its intersection with the north boundary of the Table Bluff County Park; east along the north boundary of the Table Bluff County Park to the point of origin.

3. **Sacramento Valley West.** Beginning at the town of Willows; south on Interstate 5 to the junction with Hahn Road; east on Hahn Road and the Grimes-Arbuckle Road to the town of Grimes; north on Highway 45 to its junction with Highway 162; north on Highway 45-162 to the town of Glenn; west on Highway 162 to the point of beginning.

4. **Sacramento Valley (East).** Beginning at the junction of the Gridley-Colusa Highway and the Cherokee Canal; west on the Gridley-Colusa Highway to Gould Road; west on Gould Road and due west 0.75 miles directly to Highway 45; south on Highway 45 to Highway 20; east on Highway 20 to West Butte Road; north on West Butte

Road to Pass Road; west on Pass Road to West Butte Road; north on West Butte Road to North Butte Road; west on North Butte Road and due west 0.5 miles directly to the Cherokee Canal; north on the Cherokee Canal to the point of beginning.

4. Sacramento Valley (East). Beginning at the junction of the Gridley-Colusa Highway and the Cherokee Canal; west on the Gridley-Colusa Highway to Gould Road; west on Gould Road and due west 0.75 miles directly to Highway 45; south on Highway 45 to Highway 20; east on Highway 20 to West Butte Road; north on West Butte Road to Pass Road; west on Pass Road to West Butte Road; north on West Butte Road to North Butte Road; west on North Butte Road and due west 0.5 miles directly to the Cherokee Canal; north on the Cherokee Canal to the point of beginning.

5 4 5. Morro Bay. Beginning at a point where the high tide line intersects the State Park boundary west of Cuesta by the Sea; northeasterly to a point 200 yards offshore of the high tide line at the end of Mitchell Drive in Baywood Park; northeasterly to a point 200 yards offshore of the high tide line west of the Morro Bay State Park Boundary, adjacent to Baywood Park; north to a point 300 yards south of the high tide line at the end of White Point; north along a line 400 yards offshore of the south boundary of the Morro Bay City limit to a point adjacent to Fairbanks Point; northwesterly to the high tide line on the sand spit; southerly along the high tide line of the sand spit to the south end of Morro Bay; easterly along the Park boundary at the high tide line to the beginning point.

6 5 6. San Joaquin Valley. Beginning at the intersection of Highway 5 and Highway 120; south on Highway 5 to Highway 33; southeast on Highway 33 to Crows Landing Road; north on Crows Landing Road to Highway 99; north on Highway 99 to Highway 120; west on Highway 120 to the point of beginning.

7 6 7. Martis Creek Lake. The waters and shoreline of Martis Creek Lake, Placer and Nevada counties.

7 8. Imperial County. Beginning at Highway 86 and the Navy Test Base Road; south on Highway 86 to the town of Westmoreland; continue through the town of Westmoreland to Route S26; east on Route S26 to Highway 115; north on highway 115 to Weist Rd.; north on Weist Rd. to Flowing Wells Rd.; northeast on Flowing Wells Rd. to the Coachella Canal; northwest on the Coachella Canal to Drop 18; a straight line from Drop 18 to Frink Rd.; south on Frink Rd. to Highway 111; north on Highway 111 to Niland Marina Rd.; southwest on Niland Marina Rd. to the old Imperial County boat ramp and the water line of the Salton Sea; from the water line of the Salton Sea, a straight line across the Salton Sea to the Salinity Control Research Facility and the Navy Test Base Road; southwest on the Navy Test Base Road to the point of beginning.

(c) Statewide Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for American Coots, Common Moorhens, and Black Brant.		
(1) Species	(2) Season	(3) Daily Bag and Possession Limits
American Coot and Common Moorhen.	Concurrent with duck season(s) and during the period between segments of split duck seasons.	25 per day, 25 in possession, either all of one species or a mixture of these species.
Black Brant	From November 10 through December 9.	Two 2 per day, four 4 in possession.
(d) Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Ducks and Geese by Zone.		
(1) Northeastern California Zone		
(A) Species	(B) Season	(C) Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers)	From between the first and the fourth second Saturday in October extending for 100 days <u>between 38 and 107 days</u> for 86 days. Pintails from the second Saturday in October extending for 60 days. Canvasback, from the fourth Saturday in October extending 38 days; between 0 and 107 days; from the fourth Saturday in October extending for 38 days; Season Closed.	Daily bag limit: 7 4 7 7 5 Daily bag limit makeup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to seven 3-7 5 up to 5 mallards, but not more than two either 1 or 2 <u>two 1</u> females. • one 0 only 1 pintail of either sex; may be taken during the 0, 38, 60, or 86 day <u>season.</u> • only one 0-1 canvasback of either sex; may be taken (during the 38 day season); may be taken during the 38 day season. • only two 2 redheads of either sex. • only four 4 scaup. Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.
Geese other than White-fronted and Small Canada Geese White-fronted and Small Canada	From between the first and the fourth second Saturday in October extending for 100 days. From between the first and the fourth Saturday in October extending for 44 44-100 days.	Daily bag limit: 3 Daily bag limit makeup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three may be white geese. • only two 2 may be dark geese of which only one 1 may be a small Canada goose (see definitions: 502(a)).

Geese.		Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.
(2) Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone		
(A) Species	(B) Season	(C) Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers)	<p>From between the second Saturday in October and the first Saturday in November extending for 100 days between 38 and 107 days for 86 days A split season from the third Saturday in October extending for a period of 16 days and from the fourth Saturday in November extending for a period of 65 days.</p> <p>Pintails: from the fourth Thursday in November extending for 60 days a split season from the third Saturday in October extending for a period of 7 days and from the first Thursday in December extending for a period of 53 days.</p> <p>Canvasbacks from December 14 20, 2002 - January 20 26, 2002 2003 Season Closed.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 7 4-7 7 5</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to seven 3-7 5 up to 5 mallards, but not more than two either 1 or 2 two 1 females. one 0- only 1 pintail of either sex: may be taken during the 0-, 38-, 60 -, or 86 day split season. only one 0-1 canvasback of either sex: may be taken (during the 38 day season): may be taken during the 38 day season. only two 2 redheads of either sex. only four 4 scaup. <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Geese	From between the second Saturday in October and the first Saturday in November extending for 79 to 86 days.	<p>Daily bag limit: 3</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three may be white geese. only two 2 dark geese of which only one 1 may be a small Canada goose (see definitions: 502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
(3) Southern California Zone (NOTE: SEE SUBSECTION (5)(D) BELOW FOR SPECIAL SEASONS AND CLOSURES.)		
(A) Species	(B) Season	(C) Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers).	<p>From between the second Saturday in October and the first Saturday in November extending for 100 days between 38 and 107 days for 86 days.</p> <p>Pintails from the fourth Thursday in November extending for 60 days.</p> <p>Canvasbacks from December 14 20, 2002 - January 20 26, 2002 2003 Season Closed.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 7 4-7 7 5</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to seven 3-7 5 up to 5 mallards, but not more than two either 1 or 2 two 1 females. one 0- only 1 pintail of either sex: may be taken during the 0-, 38-, 60 -, or 86 day season. only one 0-1 canvasback of either sex: may be taken (during the 38 day season): may be taken during the 38 day season. only two 2 redheads of either sex. only four 4 scaup. <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Geese	From between the third second third Saturday in October and the first Saturday in November extending for 93 days between 93 and 100 days .	<p>Daily bag limit: 5</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three 3 may be white geese. three 3 may be dark geese, but only one 1 may be a small Canada goose (see definitions: (502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
(4) Colorado River Zone		
(A) Species	(B) Season	(C) Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers)	From between the Friday after the first second Sunday in October and the first Saturday in November extending for 101 days between 38 and for 101 days .	<p>Daily bag limit: 7 4-7</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to seven 3-7 mallards, but not more than two either 1 or 2 two 2 females or

	<p><u>Pintails from the fourth Thursday in November extending for 60 days.</u></p> <p><u>Canvasbacks from December 14– January 20, 2002; between 0 and 101 days.</u></p> <p><u>Canvasbacks from December 20, 2002– January 26, 2003 Season Closed.</u></p>	<p>Mexican-like ducks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one 0- only 1 pintail of either sex- may be taken during the 0-, 38-, 60 -, or 86 day <u>season.</u> • only one 0-1 canvasback of either sex- may be taken (during the 38 day season)- <u>may be taken during the 38 day season.</u> • only two 2 redheads of either sex. • only four 4 scaup. <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Geese	<p>From between October 155 and 26 extending for 98 days.</p> <p><u>From October 24 18 extending for 98 101 days.</u></p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 56</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to three3 white geese. • up to three3 dark geese (see definitions: 502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>

(5) Balance of State Zone (NOTE: SEE SUBSECTION (D) BELOW FOR SPECIAL SEASONS AND CLOSURES.)

(A) Species	(B) Season	(C) Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers)	<p>From between the second Saturday in October and the first Saturday in November extending for 100 days between 38 and 107 days for 86 days <u>A split season from the fourth Saturday in October extending for a period of 16 days and from the fifth Saturday in November extending for a period of 58 days.</u></p> <p><u>Pintails: a split season from the fourth Saturday in October extending for a period of 16 days and from the second Saturday in December extending for a period of 44 days.</u></p> <p>Canvasbacks from December 14 20, 2002– January 20 26, 2002 2003 Season Closed.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 7 4-7 7 5</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to seven 3-7 5 up to 5 mallards, but not more than two either 1 or 2 <u>two 1</u> females. • one 0- only 1 pintail of either sex- may be taken during the 0-, 38-, 60 -, or 86 day <u>split season.</u> • only one 0-1 canvasback of either sex- may be taken (during the 38 day season)- <u>may be taken during the 38 day season.</u> • only two 2 redheads of either sex. • only four 4 scaup. <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
Geese	<p>From between the second Saturday in October and the first Saturday in November extending for 79 to 86 days.</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 3</p> <p>Daily bag limit makeup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three may be white geese. • only two2 dark geese of which only one1 may be a small Canada goose (see definitions: 502(a)). <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>

(D) Special Management Areas

Area	Species	Season
1. North Coast	All Canada Geese	<p>Closed all year or a 5 day Season. Five days from November 23, 2002. Daily bag limit: 1 Canada Goose (see definitions: 502(a)).</p> <p>Possession limit: double the daily bag limit.</p>
2. South Humboldt Bay	All species	Closed November 10 through December 9.
3. Sacramento Valley (West)	White-Fronted Geese	Closed after December 14, except for Youth Hunting Days.
4. Sacramento	All Canada Geese. All Canada Geese	Closed all year or eliminated. Closed all year.

Valley (East) 4. Sacramento Valley (East)		
5 4 5. Morro Bay	All species	Open in designated area only.
6 5 6. San Joaquin Valley	All Canada Geese	Closed all year.
7 6 7. Martis Lake	All species	Closed until November 16.
7 8. Imperial County	<u>White geese</u>	<u>Open from the end of the general goose season through the first Sunday in February.</u> <u>Daily bag limit 3 white geese.</u> <u>Possession limit double the daily bag limit.</u>

(e) **Youth Hunting Days Regulations** (NOTE: Youth hunters must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult 18 years of age or older.)

(A) Species	(B) Season	(C) Daily Bag Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers), American Coot, Common Moorhen, Black Brant, Geese	<p>1. Northeastern California Zone: The Saturday preceding the opening of the waterfowl season extending for 2 days <u>Either † The last weekend in September or the first weekend in October.</u></p> <p>2. Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone: <u>November 9th and 10th and † the Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days.</u></p> <p>3. Southern California Zone: The Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days.</p> <p>4. Colorado River Zone: The Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season.</p> <p>5. Balance of State Zone: <u>November 16th and 17th and † the Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days.</u></p>	Same as regular season EXCEPT in the <u>November Youth hunts in the Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone and the Balance of State Zone, the pintail season is closed.</u>

(f) **Falconry Take of Ducks (including Mergansers), Geese, American Coots, and Common Moorhens.**

(1) Statewide Provisions

(A) Species	(B) Season	(C) Daily Bag and Possession Limits
Ducks (including Mergansers), Geese, American Coot and Common Moorhen.	<p>1. Northeastern California Zone. Open concurrently with duck season and extends <u>extending</u> for 105 days.</p> <p>2. Balance of State Zone. Open concurrently with duck season and <u>extending</u> for 107 days.</p> <p>3. Southern San Joaquin Zone. Open concurrently with duck season and <u>extending</u> for 107 days.</p> <p>4. Southern California Zone. Open concurrently with duck <u>goose</u> season and <u>extending</u> for 107 days.</p> <p>5. Colorado River Zone. Concurrent with the duck season and from January 24-25, 2002 27-February † 31, 2003.</p> <p>Goose hunting in this zone by means of</p>	<p>Daily bag limit: 3 Daily bag limit makeup: • Either all of one 1 species or a mixture of species allowed for take.</p> <p><u>Canvasback Season Closed.</u></p> <p>Possession limit: 6</p>

(e) Youth Hunting Days Regulations (NOTE: Youth hunters must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult 18 years of age or older.)		
	falconry is not permitted. Federal regulations require that California's hunting regulations conform to those of Arizona, where goose hunting by means of falconry is not permitted.	

NOTE

Authority: Section 202 and 355, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 202, 355 and 356, Fish and Game Code.